



The Surrey Amateur Radio Club *Communicator*



SARC 2015 Foxhunt
more photos inside...

Field Day Preparations

SARC Annual General Meeting Report

Reminder!!!
My SARC
membership
renewal is due

June 2015



At The Last Meeting...

SURREY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

TELEPHONE & ADDRESS

(604) 591-1825

12144 - 57A Avenue
Surrey, BC V3X 2S3
SARC@ve7sar.net

EDITOR

John Schouten VE7TI
SARCcommunicator
@outlook.com

WEBMASTER

Howard Ticzon VA7HTZ

NET MANAGER

Rob Gilchrist VE7CZV

QSL MANAGER

Heinz Buhrig VA7AQ

REPEATER MANAGER

George Merchant VE7QH

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At The May General Meeting...

Minutes of the May 13, 2015 Meeting

INTRODUCTIONS

President John Brodie VA7XB brought the meeting to order at 1900 hrs. He offered congratulations to Mike Plant VE7AT for qualifying as SARC's new accredited examiner to replace John MacFarlane VE7AXU, who is moving away from the area. Heinz Buhrig VA7AQ was also welcomed back after his surgery and recuperation and thanked for volunteering to be SARC's QSL manager, to replace the previous member who is unable to continue with the task. Joe Zaccaria VE7TOL advised that Al Peterson VA7ALZ was recently hospitalized and is expected to return home this week. Al Munnik VA7MP announced that Bo Wiedemann VE7BO recently suffered a serious vehicle accident but is now recovering. The meeting agenda was presented and approved.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Financial Report

Treasurer Scott Hawrelak VE7HA reviewed the status of SARC's chequing and savings accounts, including the infusion of \$2046 from the recent sale of donated equipment, and noted that the books are up-to-date and ready for year-end audit. A motion was made and carried that the equipment donor (Phil Eldridge) be sent a \$100 gift certificate as thanks for his generous donation. John VA7XB also suggested that the proceeds of the equipment sale be segregated in the books for a "clubhouse fund" to facilitate a club station. A motion to this effect was made and carried, and a subsequent motion was made by Mike VE7AT (and carried) that a committee should be struck to look into the clubhouse project. This will be tabled for follow-up by the Executive.

Raffle

John VA7XB announced that raffle tickets are now available, and encouraged each member to take one or more books to sell over the months leading up to the draw at the September 12th Langley Cruise-in event, where both SARC and LARA will have tables set up and communication duties to perform.

Foxhunt

Anton James VE7SSD stated that 17 persons are now signed up for the foxhunt on May 23rd at Crescent Park and asked for any other persons wishing to participate to notify him immediately. Full particulars can be found on the website. Anton requested the help of volunteers to set out the foxes and help with the BBQ in the possible absence of Al VA7ALZ. He is also looking for one more table-top BBQ.

Annual General Meeting

Members were reminded that June 10th is SARC's AGM at which time elections for 3 Directors will be held, to replace those Directors whose terms have expired. Nominations will also be taken from the floor and members were encouraged to stand for a Director's position. It was emphasized that in order to vote, the member must be in "good standing" which means that club dues for the 2015/16 fiscal year must be paid at or before the AGM. The annual financial statement will also be presented at the AGM. In addition, members will be asked to approve a revised schedule of fees, in which the only change proposed is a 50% fee reduction for those having continuous membership for 25 or more years.

New Business

There was no new business.

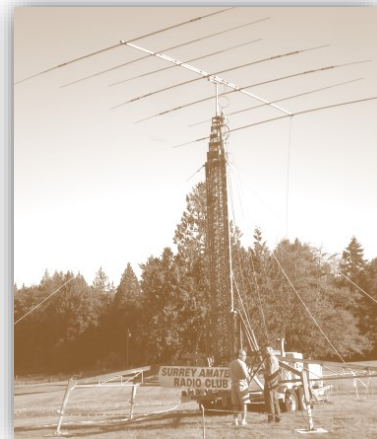
Field Day Orientation

A comprehensive series of Powerpoint slides describing the proposed FD strategy was presented by members of the field day planning committee: Stan Williams VA7NF, Brett Garrett VE7GM, John Schouten VE7TI, Al Neufeld VE7CDC, Jim Smith VE7FO and John Brodie VA7XB. The major "competitive" changes proposed for this year are Class 3A Battery QRP operation, and the installation of gain-type low band antennas. A drop-in station and GOTA station will not be part of the plan this year. Heinz VA7AQ was thanked for his willingness to organize a 6m VHF station. Members were asked to volunteer for various duties and to bring needed items, as set out on sign-up sheets made available at the end of the meeting. Stan VA7NF made a special request for a "social coordinator" who

would plan and implement the social aspects of field day. A FD budget was reviewed by John VA7XB, including a \$1525 expenditure for the purchase of the following capital items: a 160/80/40 triplexer, fuel extender for the generator, grounding supplies, coax and connectors, 12v power cable and antenna wire. The need for these items goes beyond FD and is justified by the need to be self-reliant and independent of other agencies and individuals during a real disaster. Al Munnik VA7MP has generously offered use of his cargo trailer, and may be able to assist with provision of some cable. Al Munnich also offered use of one of his air cannons. Mike Plant VE7AT indicated his vehicle is equipped to tow a large trailer. A motion to approve the budget was made and carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 2100 hrs. following which a social time was convened at the local MacDonald's Restaurant.

~ Rob VE7CZV



The **SARC Communicator** is published monthly except July and August for members of the Surrey Amateur Radio Club.

To subscribe, unsubscribe or change your address for e-mail delivery of this newsletter, notify SARCcommunicator@outlook.com

Non-members living in the Greater Vancouver area may receive one trial issue.

Beyond our membership area, annual Communicator subscriptions are available for a \$5 donation towards our Field Day fund.

SARC maintains a website at www.ve7sar.net that includes club history, meetings, news, photos and other information.

On The Cover...

Our cover photo this month was taken at Crescent Park in South Surrey during the SARC Annual Foxhunt. The Park is a large 52 hectare (128 acre) destination park in South Surrey. The Park offers walking trails through mature second growth forests, with ponds, streams and meadows to discover.

The park also has a bridle path on its perimeter. Its wildlife, open fields, covered picnic shelters and forested trails make it a relaxing destination and a place of discovery. The nature trail walk around Crescent Park is around 3.8 kilometres long. Allow 1 to 1.5 hours for this walk.

In addition to its spectacular natural areas, the eastern portions of Crescent Park offer a range of park amenities including two baseball diamonds, a large multi-purpose field and a playground. There are two parking lots that can be accessed from 132 Street.



June 2015

RAC Announces New Chief of Field Services Organization



RAC is pleased to announce that Mr. William ("Bill") Boskwick, VE4BOZ/VE4IR, has accepted the position of Chief Field Services Officer (CFSO). This is an Executive level position within RAC and reports to the President.

One of the significant roles within Field Services is the enabling of Amateur emergency communications at the regional level.

Amateur emergency communication (EmComm) has been involved in such crises as floods and fires in Alberta and Manitoba and hurricanes in

Newfoundland. Emergency disaster response is a provincial/municipal responsibility in Canada.

Bill comes to RAC with a significant leadership and communication background in the Canadian Armed Forces.

~ Geoff Bawden VE4BAW
RAC President and Chairman



Google Tone



The data is sent at a frequency that can't be heard by humans

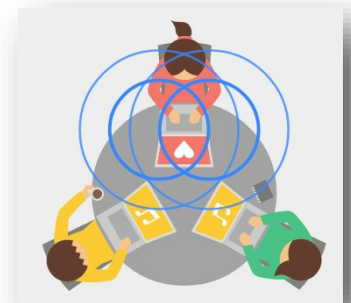
Google is hoping that computers will soon start sharing information with neighbouring machines by having a "chat". The US technology giant has released an extension for its Chrome browser that allows the computer to broadcast information by playing a sound that can be picked up by the microphone of a machine nearby. The Tone extension adds a button to the browser that broadcasts the URL of the current tab to any other machines in earshot that have the extension installed.

"Tone grew out of the idea that while digital communication methods like email and chat have made it infinitely easier, cheaper, and faster to share things with people across the globe, they've actually made it more complicated to share things with the people standing right next to you," said a blog post by a Google interaction researcher and software engineer. "Tone aims to make sharing digital things with nearby people as easy as talking to them."

The data is sent at a frequency that can't be heard by humans, however Tone

initializes the connection with another computer using audible Dual Tone Multi-frequency Signaling. The information can also be broadcast to computers at a distance by playing the sound over the phone or a Google Hangout. Google has been using the extension internally to exchange design files and links. The system can transmit data in most environments but not every nearby machine will always receive every broadcast. See it in action at URL:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_TkwrhJV0j0



NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

of the
SURREY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB
JUNE 10, 2015 AT 7:00 PM
EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT BC OFFICES
14275 96TH AVENUE, SURREY, BC

AGENDA

1. Welcome, call to order and confirmation of quorum
2. Approval of agenda
3. Approval of 2014 AGM minutes
4. Presentation and approval of Annual Financial Statements
5. Announcements
6. Committee reports
7. Other/new business
8. Election of Directors
9. Project Demos (Battery Monitor)
10. Adjournment

CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

Members elect up to 8 Directors, each serving a 2-year term. Directors in caucus appoint the President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer.

Directors continuing for the second year of their 2-year term are:

Williams, Stan VA7NF

Peterson, Al VA7ALZ

Gipps, Bill VE7XS

Garrett, Brett VE7GM

Brodie, John VA7XB

Nominations for Director for a 2-year term to date are:

Schouten, John VE7TI

Hawrelak, Scott VE7HA

Gilchrist, Rob VE7CZV

Nominations will also be taken from the floor.



Only members in good standing may vote at the AGM
This requires that dues be paid for the 2015/2016 fiscal year prior to, or at, the AGM.

June 2015



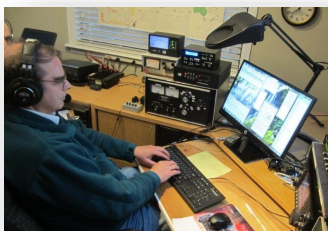
The Contest Contender

Contest Updates

BCQP Results

The official results and the post-event report for BCQP 2015 have been uploaded

Below: Brett VE7GM works the BCQP at VA7XB



The official results and the post-event report for BCQP 2015 have been uploaded to the the BCQP section of the Orca DXCC website and are now available for viewing and downloading in PDF format. The report covers a behind-the-scenes perspective, numerical analysis and a summary of results.

Separate results pages -- one for BC stations and one for out-of-BC stations -- offer a more detailed breakdown of scores.

To go directly to the report:

http://orcadxccc.org/content/pdf/bcqp/BCQP_2015_report.pdf

To BC results:

http://orcadxccc.org/content/pdf/bcqp/BCQP_2015_results_BC.pdf

To outside-BC results:

http://orcadxccc.org/content/pdf/bcqp/BCQP_2015_results_W-VE-DX.pdf

There's also a featured link to results on the Orca DXCC homepage, if you have it bookmarked already.

If you know someone who participated in BCQP 2015 but didn't send in or a log or was on a team and therefore isn't getting this notification directly, please pass on the links.

Certificates for top scores in all categories of entry, special certificates as appropriate, and plaques to the eight winners in the sponsored categories are being prepared and will be sent out as they are ready.

Thanks for participating in BCQP 2015. Hope to see you again in 2016.

~ Rebecca VA7BEC
Orca DXCC, Contest Coordinator, BCQP

Update on the RAC National Incoming QSL Bureau

RAC comms - wp.rac.ca

Member societies of the International Radio Union (IARU) operate a worldwide system of QSL Bureaus. Radio Amateurs of Canada, as the Canadian member-society, operates a National Incoming Bureau, and sponsors the Incoming Bureaus for the 12 Canadian call areas.

Cards received by the National Incoming Bureau, from IARU member societies and others, are sorted and forwarded to the Incoming Bureau in each Canadian call area.

All domestic cards (VA-VE-VY) to Canadian Amateurs should be sent directly to the RAC National Incoming Bureau, and not to the Outgoing Bureau. This service is only available to RAC members. Domestic cards sent to the Outgoing Bureau will experience a delay.

Only cards for destinations outside Canada should be sent to the Outgoing QSL Bureau.

National Incoming QSL Bureau Sponsored by: Loyalist City ARC Len Morgan, VE9MY, Manager Box 51 Saint John, NB, E2L 3X1

~ RAC Report April 2015



SARC Contest Group Calendar

June 2015

- + ARRL June VHF Contest 1800Z, Jun 13 to 0259Z, Jun 15
- + All Asian DX Contest, CW 0000Z, Jun 20 to 2400Z, Jun 21

July 2015

- + RAC Canada Day Contest 0000Z-2359Z, Jul 1
- + IARU HF World Championship 1200Z, Jul 11 to 1200Z, Jul 12
- + RSGB IOTA Contest 1200Z, Jul 25 to 1200Z, Jul 26

August 2015

- + North American QSO Party, CW 1800Z, Aug 1 to 0559Z, Aug 2
- + Hawaii QSO Party 0400Z, Aug 22 to 0400Z, Aug 24

September 2015

- + Washington State Salmon Run 1600Z, Sep 19 to 0700Z, Sep 20 and

"Special thanks are due to John VA7XB and Jim VE7FO, both of whom opened up their stations to host members who don't otherwise have access to a contest-grade station."



From the Trenches

Sometime you may find yourself with a situation where you have to open up a coax connection where a product called Coax-Seal has been used as a sealant. While the manufacturer claims this material is "easy to remove", my experience differs.

I recently encountered a situation where I had to remove Coax-Seal and recover the components. I found it to be a messy business, especially trying to remove the material from the connectors. Assuming others had had the same problem, I did an internet search and found a solution that worked well for me.

After dislodging as much of the material as possible using a soft scraping tool (e.g. fingernail), roll the recovered Coax-Seal into a small wad, taking care not to contaminate it more than can be helped.

Next, holding the wad of recovered Coax-Seal in the fingers of one hand, dab the wad on the Coax-Seal that is still adhering to the connector (almost like dabbing a wad

of paper towel on a drop of liquid to pull it off a surface). You will find that the Coax-Seal sticks to itself significantly better than it sticks to the metal of the connector, and the dabbing action will cause small chunks of the material still adhering to the connector to stick to the wad in your fingers and pull away, leaving the connector itself relatively clean, including in the recesses of the knurled portion.

The procedure is easy to do, and I found it fast and effective. Fun--not so much! But neither were any of the alternatives I could think of (or find in a search, including one person's recommendation to cut the connector off the coax and install a new one).

~ Brett VE7GM



June 2015

The Contest Contender

Larry Anderson WB5EIN

A Field Day Story



OK, guys and gals, maybe I've shared this with y'all before or maybe not. And maybe y'all get tired of hearing me talk about how great that ham club was when I lived in Starkville. But, here's the evidence of just ONE (of many) outings we enjoyed together.

The club was the Tombigbee Amateur Radio Club (TARC). We had no club call, but for most FDs, we used the call of our President, Eldo Gibbs W5LL (Silent Key for many years now). That was a sweet call for FD.

Later, we used the call of John Meador, K5BX (also a SK now). That, too, was cool. TARC was made up of members from Starkville, West Point, and Columbus, for the most part. This particular year, we operated from the pecan orchard South of West Point, belonging to the Miller Brothers. That orchard can still be seen East of Hwy 45, if you look East just North of that Indian Burial Mount South of WP. What a great place that was!!! We NEVER operated indoors!

We operated Class 3A. This was one of a few years when we placed within the top 10 in Class 3A, perhaps the most competitive class of all. But, when you see the antennas we erected this particular year, I think you'll understand why we made the top 10. Mind you, that was LONG before the days of automated stations, computer logging, and boatloads of bonus points. You just had to put your head down and GRIND through those 24 hours, clicking off contact after contact, hoping for as few dupes as possible. One person operating the rig. Another person logging. And, sometimes, a third checking for dupes. And, the thought of having a station vacant or not operating was totally foreign, and completely unacceptable! We were definitely NOT a contest club. Rather, we were made up of people who became accustomed to rolling up our sleeves and giving "whatever it takes" to achieve success. And, achieve we did!

"...people who became accustomed to rolling up our sleeves and giving whatever it takes to achieve success.

And, achieve we did"

Here we go...

Tower #1: The CW station. We had this rotatable (Ham-M rotor) yagi on an 80' tower of mine at the South end of the orchard. At one time, I thought it was my TH6DXX, but it was just 4 elements rather than 6. So, it was just a "hoss" yagi tribander. We used plain inverted vees off the tower for 40 and 80. A crew of us worked on installing that MONSTER 3 element rotatable delta loop for 40!

Tower #2: I can't remember how tall that tower was, but it was Rohn 25, maybe 60 or 70 feet. That was for the phone stations, only one of which could use the beam at a time. The other phone station would use a tribander on a pushup for the high bands and inverted vees in those trees for 40 and 80. We also had a 2-element rotatable quad for 40, but it was low to the ground and it made a huge difference in both xmit and rcv, but nothing like that delta loop!

It was so much fun testing this thing before FD began. We'd make a contact using the 40 meter inverted vee and get a signal report. Then, we'd switch to the quad and get a report. Man, people couldn't believe it. Then, we would say, "Hold on a minute, we have one more 40 meter antenna we'd like a report on." And, we'd switch to that delta loop, making sure it was pointed in the same direction as the quad. Folks would go nuts! They'd ask what kind of amp we were running for FD. Then, when we told them what we used, they wanted photos! Of course, I can't remember exactly, but I know we had gains well in excess of 20 dB! I recall some stations in Georgia telling us that we were 60 dB over S9 on their meters. One gent from North Carolina told us that we had pegged his meter with that delta loop. And, it was HOT on receive, too. We could almost hear people whisper on that monster!

On the delta loop the boom is about 40' of Rohn 20!!! So, you know it was a heavy dude! Dennis McCoy was the antenna

designer. We had a pulley system from the top that would raise the boom and elements. A rope led back to a vehicle and it would just back up to raise the antenna.

Dennis, a couple more guys, and I were given permission to cut bamboo poles from the North Levee of Bluff Lake on the Noxubee National Wildlife Refuge. We stretched the poles across the top of my GMC pickup. I had to drive very slowly, because the poles were so long that the small ends were dragging the pavement on the rear... and the big ends of the poles (the base) would occasionally bounce down and touch the pavement in the front. The bottoms of those poles were so huge that we could take a glass 2 liter coke bottle, stick it up into the pole and rattle that thing around!

We needed a tall ladder on the ends to help install the bamboo spreaders. Of course, we had to affix the radiating wires to the vertical bamboo before we hoisted the element into place on the boom. The element-to-boom assemblies had to be custom built in the Physics Department shop at MSU.

At a bracket on the near end of the boom, was an aluminum plate to which three half-circle devices were welded. Those are some aluminum pipes that we cut in half, then welded to the plate. To hold the bamboo, we took long threaded rods, then bent them so that they would go around the massive bamboo pieces, they could be tightened with washers and nuts next to the plate. Pretty ingenious of Dennis to work out that design.

The monster is getting ready to TALK!!!

This process took several hours, but well worth all the effort. Somewhere, I have a photo of Fred Reiselt (now lives in Corinth) who had to "shinny" all the way out to one end of the boom in order to make a small adjustment. That was a really weird sight, but the doggone boom held up just fine. Nobody fell or was hurt in any way. For a long, long time, I had all the pieces of this system stacked up behind my parents' house, but when we disposed of the property (after my dad was killed when one of my towers fell on him), that stuff got away, somehow. I surely would love to have it all back!!!

The top tip of the reflector element, when finished, was a bit over 100 feet in the air. Knowing what I know now, we could probably have done with it lower; however, we were young and energetic back in those days. We used screw-in anchors for this Rohn 25 tower. We didn't want that baby going anywhere!

Ahhhhh, those were the days!!!!

- Larry Anderson, WB5EIN

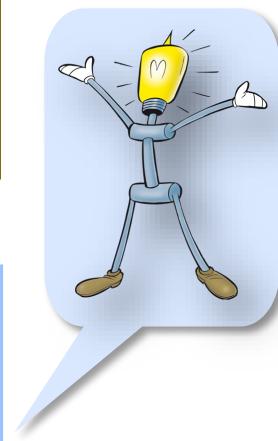
*From the Tombigbee Amateur Radio Club
(Starkville, Columbus, West Point Mississippi)*

*The monster is
getting ready to
TALK!!!*

Tech Tip

"How do I know if my rig frequency is calibrated correctly?"

Listen to WWV, with your frequency indicator reading the exact transmission frequency, first in LSB mode, and then in USB mode without touching the VFO knob. Listen for any change in tone on the tone pulses when you switch. If your rig is accurate, there won't be any perceptible change in tone. If you have to tune off frequency to be able to pass this tone test, then you can see how much your frequency indication is in error.



June 2015



The Annual SARC Foxhunt

A Dry Day and Good Times



The coordination of Brenda and Anton ensured a successful event.

On Saturday, May 22nd, Crescent Park in South Surrey was the site of the 2015 SARC Foxhunt (also known as a 'bunny' hunt). Unlike some previous years the weather was mostly dry although a few of us wish we had brought some warmer clothing as the temperatures dipped to an unseasonable low after a week of summer weather.

Al Peterson VA7ALZ and his wife were on site early and set out five 2-metre foxes in areas of the park. Each fox transmits a CW identifier numbered from 1 to 5 so participants can distinguish between their signals. An additional fox was used as a training aid to familiarize the rookies in attendance on the basics of transmitter location techniques. Participant included several SARC members, members of other local clubs and even two fox hunters from the Victoria area.

At 10am, after a short briefing by Anton James VE7SSD, the event organizer, the five foxes began emitting their beacon in turn and the hunt was on. Each fox was attached to a flag. Once found, the competitors used an attached punch to mark their scoring sheet. The completed sheet was returned to the timekeeper and the elapsed time was recorded. If you want to give this a try, it will be a demonstration activity at this year's Field Day.

Sixteen 'hunters' entered. The fastest (and arguably the most experienced) participant was Les Tocko VA7OM who found all 5 foxes with an impressive time of only 31.5 minutes. In the Novice category the top score was attained by John Brodie VA7XB with 4 foxes and an elapsed time of 94 minutes.

An excellent barbecue lunch, prepared by Anton's wife Brenda, was served to 22 guests. This social time provided an opportunity for a great exchange of information including details of a receiver kit under development locally for 80m foxhunting. On 80m the hunt is considerably more effective as participants do not have to cope with reflected signals and other complications of 2m propagation.

Presentation of the coveted crystal bunny [photo left] to the top score in the Expert group and the pink fur bunny to the Novice top score concluded the event.

Thanks Anton for organizing another great, and fun SARC event!

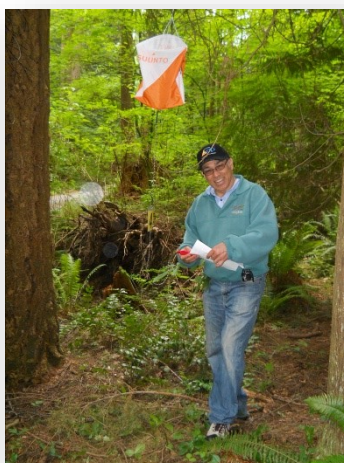




Al and wife Pat came to set out and coordinate the foxes



And the winners are...



Above: Preparations for the hunt.

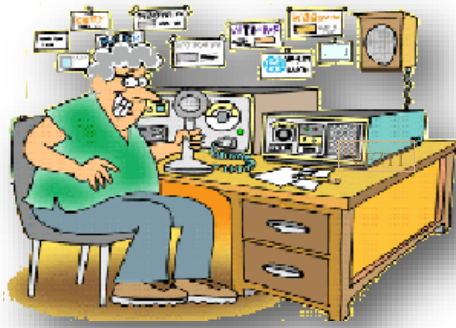
Left: Anton locates fox #4 and the attached punch is used to verify the find on the score sheet.



More photos at URL:
tinyurl.com/FoxHunt15



June 2015



QRM

...from the Editor's shack

*Do you have a photo or bit of club news to share?
An Interesting link?*

*Something to sell or something you are looking for?
eMail it to SARCcommunicator@outlook.com for inclusion in this column.*

On The Sick List

We had word that Al Peterson VA7ALZ was in hospital battling pneumonia. Fortunately he showed up at the Foxhunt 'though looking a bit pale and moving a bit slower than usual, but mostly recovered from his ordeal. All the best for a continued and speedy recovery Al!

Railroad Q Follow-up

My inquiry that appeared in the last monthly issue of the SARS Club newsletter precipitated a host of replies, and started me to search further into the meaning of train whistles. Apparently, there is an internationally recognized signal of a locomotive approaching a public crossing of the train tracks of "two longs, a short, and a long" blowing of the train whistle to announce the approach of a train.

The history goes even back to England, where allegedly, Queen Victoria was the first British Monarch to travel by train, and the train engineers would announce, proudly, by whistle, "Here Comes the Queen" in Morse Code. But, further investigation has shown that there is quite a vocabulary of train whistle signals that are used by the railway fraternity... "two longs", for example, indicate "proceed", and long before the advent of radio, trains were able to communicate to each other.

A reader of the monthly magazine of "Trains", questioned the same query, and the response went on for some time... it would appear that there is quite a virtual dialect that is used by the train fraternity, much as we hams use the query of "Seek You", in our search for some other ham to converse with when we are using our, now treasured Morse code.

Indeed, with advancing technology... we hams are the only fraternity in the world using the venerable Morse code, at this time.

~ Norm Schmidt VE7IIT

Antique Radio Swap Meet

There is an Antique Radio Swap Meet on Sunday June 7th in Burnaby. FREE admission and FREE seller tables! I'm marking my calendar now.

<http://vancouver.craigslist.ca/bnc/atq/5008377955.html>

~ Sheldon

RadCom Plus Magazine

RadCom Plus - a new Amateur/Ham Radio Magazine is launched. Check out the issue at URL: <http://icqpodcast.com/news/2015/5/17/radcom-plus-new-amateur-ham-radio-magazine-launched>

Field Day Photo Contest

Bring those cameras to Field Day this year. The best or most unique photo will receive a nice prize!

And speaking of photo opportunities, If anyone has access to a drone with photo capabilities we'd love to have some aerial shots.

Motion For A 25-Year Member Rate?

At the AGM, SARC members will be asked to vote approval for a 'seniors' discount to members who have been with the club continuously for 25 years. The proposed discount would be 50% of the current fee.

HF Beam Wanted

John VE7TI is looking for an HF beam for 10-15-20 metres. If you have one available in reasonable shape, please send an email to ve7ti@separs.net.

For Sale

Icom ID-51A, with the RT software, hand mike, cables and connectors \$490. Radio only \$399

Don Hamilton VA7GL va7gl@icloud.com



Page 13—News You Can Lose

The Lighter Side of Amateur Radio

Edison Played With Dolls Too

Thomas Alva Edison has a great many accomplishments in the fields of electricity and electronics. However, despite several years of experimentation and development, the Edison Talking Doll was a dismal failure that was only marketed for a few short weeks in early 1890. Edison's Talking Doll was an historic step in phonograph history -- the first phonograph marketed for home entertainment, with a pre-recorded cylinder. The doll stands 22" high and weighs four pounds, with a metal body, articulated wooden limbs, and an imported Simon and Halbig #719 bisque head. The original price was \$10 with a simple chemise, and \$20-\$25 with full dress. This was a huge sum for the time, equal to about two weeks salary for the average person.



The phonograph inside the body of the doll was tiny, with a small horn pointing up toward holes in the doll's chest. Cylinders were not interchangeable. There was no spring motor so the child was expected to turn the crank by hand at a steady speed in order for the doll to recite the six-second pre-recorded nursery rhyme. (Edison was later quoted as admitting that "the voices of the little monsters were exceedingly unpleasant to hear.") Unfortunately the delicate mechanism was too fragile for rough usage, and the steel stylus caused the wax record to wear out extremely rapidly.

Hear the eerie recording at URL:

[edis-heitz-dilg-edison-c-now-i-lay-me-20020211-90rpm-restored.mp3](#)

running a pile-up so I patiently wait while he finishes each QSO before calling. One conversation was particularly interesting:

CQ DX ALPHA SEVEN ONE AMERICA MEXICO
K2ABC K2ABC

K2ABC ur 59 in Qatar - very nice signal

QSL ur 59 here Did I hear you say that you're operating remote from Dayton?

That's right, I'm in Dayton for the Hamvention and operating the rig in Qatar remotely from my hotel room here.

Wow! Are you going to any of the dinners tonight?

Yes, I'm going to the contesting dinner.

Wow, my brother, K2XYZ, will be at that dinner. You know, some time ago he said that he'd work you before I did so I guess the joke's on him.

Tell you what, I'll make out your QSL card right now, give it to him at dinner and ask him to deliver it to you.

I can just imagine the expression on the brother's face. Unfortunately, I wasn't able to work him.

~ Jim VE7FO



Overheard...

Saturday afternoon - let's see if there's any choice DX on.

Hmm... VE7CC packet cluster tells me A71AM is on 20 phone. This would be an all time new one for me and, guess what, he's a perfectly readable S5. He's more in chat mode than

June 2015



SEPAR Report

Alan Saunders VA7BIT



"We would also like to offer our appreciation to Fred Orsetti for the many hours he has dedicated to SEPAR over the years. "

This past month SEPAR held its AGM on April 28, 2015. During this meeting a new executive was formed as follows:

President/Coordinator - VA7BIT - Alan Saunders

Secretary - VA7YEE - Garvin Yee

Treasurer - VA7DRW - Drew Elvins

Director - VE7VTA - Ron Casey

Director - VA7NF - Stan Williams

Director - Dan Barnscher

Director - Lorraine Wilson

Past President - VE7IO - Fred Orsetti

Thank you all for accepting the positions and responsibilities. We would also like to offer our appreciation to Fred Orsetti for the many hours he has dedicated to SEPAR over the years. Although he is stepping away from the day-to day responsibilities he has indicated that he will participate as much as possible with SEPAR from his QTH.

The following are some of the items SEPAR will focus on over the next months:

- Looking at moving the SEPAR meeting night from Tuesday back to Thursday.
- Look at possibly creating a second SEPAR net on a different evening to allow more members to participate.
- Changing the format of the SEPAR net(s) to include a roll-call based check-in on different simplex frequencies and bands.

- Using the knowledge gained with the modified NET format we will learn where to deploy relay stations and operators for better coverage during an event.
- Determine alternative fire halls for storage of each grab and go kit for faster/easier deployment when needed.
- Expanding the deployment and operational training of the grab and go kits with the addition of the 220 band radios.
- Creating scenario based exercises with the addition of our newly acquired handheld radios
- Include shelter in place scenarios using SEPAR members own QTH and equipment.
- Increase usage of digital communication for messaging.
- Develop and practice providing health and welfare messages as a public service.
- Targeting completion of the SEPAR trailer cabinets.

Please feel free to check in to our SEPAR NET on Tuesday at 7:30pm and indicate if you would like to participate in the simplex portion. We look forward to hearing from you.

~ Alan Saunders VA7BIT
SEPAR Coordinator

ARES Manual Updated

The week following Dayton Hamvention will see the release of the new and updated ARES Manual. The ARES Manual and NTS Manual have together long been part of a single publication, The Public Service Communications Manual. The two manuals will now be separate publications. NTS leadership is currently reviewing and preparing to update the NTS Manual.

The new ARES Manual includes several new additions - inclusion of ICS forms 213, 205, and 214 for ARES use; an

expanded discussion on training resources; clarification on the role and purpose of RACES; and copies of all current ARRL MOUs. The update is the first in over two decades and was a collaborative effort of field organization leaders, federal partners, and ARRL staff. The new manual will be made available online as a downloadable PDF at URL:

<http://www.arrl.org/files/file/Public%20Service/ARES/ARESmanual2015.pdf>



Emergency Comms

Stories of Ham Radio Making A Difference

Pikes Peak ARES Has The Backs of Runners in Rugged Colorado Terrain

Pikes Peak ARES supported the 2015 Falcon 50 UltraMarathon and sister events this past month. A marathon is a tough 26-mile race; a 50-mile ultra-marathon, even more so. A unique "military heavy" marathon has runners carrying 35-pound rucksacks while wearing boots and a uniform. These were the options for participants. On Saturday, May 2, 170 runners tested their mettle on the rugged terrain and high altitude of the marathon course at the United States Air Force Academy in Colorado Springs, Colorado. Of those, 125 were either ultra-marathon or military heavy marathon runners. They were not alone.

Supporting them was a volunteer team of Amateur Radio operators from the Pikes Peak district ARES. Twenty-two operators, one of whom was also a participant in the marathon, set up six stations around the course to track and report runner progress, coordinate supplies and transportation, and report any emergencies on the course. This required being up and on the air before the 6 AM start time and operating past the 8 PM finish line cut off.

Using radios in areas where cell phones often have spotty reception and using the same techniques that make Amateur Radio a huge asset in disasters, the ARES operators passed runner progress messages tracking each bib number as it passed through an aid station.

The system used was Fldigi in the MT-63 2000L mode with Fldigi sending Incident Command System (ICS) form 213 messages over UHF/FM radios. This digital system is the same as radio amateurs might use to support Incident Commands during disasters and emergencies.

The team thoroughly tested and practiced this system under the guidance of Bill Hecker, KCOET, in the weeks prior to the event. Messages were automatically compiled into Al Glock's, KCOPRM, "Bib Track" software, originally designed to track

patients during a mass casualty event. This software can even predict when a runner should arrive at the next aid station. In all, over 1070 runner position reports were passed. The hams also used voice systems for general information, coordination, weather information, and control as well as APRS to track course sweepers and give a combined operating picture.

As veterans of public service events will attest, these systems become even more valuable near the end of a race as the directors try to determine who is left on the course and where they might be, and the 2015 Falcon 50 was no exception. According to Mission Coordinator Dan Martin, KD0SMP, when the race director was desperately trying to find one particular runner and was faced with possibly calling out search and rescue, the ARES team was able to show that the person of interest had never started the race and was incorrectly listed. "It's hard to describe the Race Director's reactions," Martin said. "When he saw the database evidence, you could see his relief. He knew he could get confirmation and when it came, he literally jumped for joy." Martin said "I could not be more proud to be able to say: 'No sweat, that's what we do.'"

The Falcon 50 gives PPARES members a great chance to hone their skills for emergencies and disasters. It is one of the more unique events Pikes Peak ARES supports as a public service. This was the fourth year of the event and Pikes Peak ARES is proud to have supported it all four years. The race is open to all military ID card holders. As Colorado ARES Region 2 District 2, Pikes Peak ARES is responsible for ARES operations in El Paso and Teller counties, including Colorado Springs.

~ John Bloodgood, KD0SFY,
Public Information Officer,
Pikes Peak ARES, Colorado

"...the ARES team was able to show that the person of interest had never started the race"

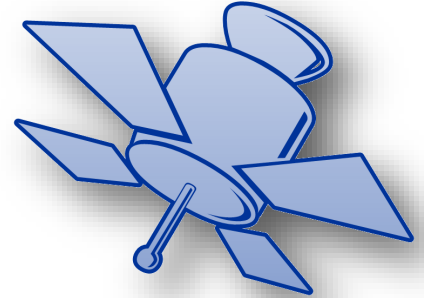


June 2015



Satellite Specialty Group

John Schouten VE7TI



The SARC Satellite Group Meeting 2015-05-17

*The next meeting is
scheduled for
Sunday, June 7th*

The Satellite group met once again in preparation for Field Day. Buoyed by the successes of the previous sessions and a separate contact by John VA7XB, members of the group hoped that several favourable satellite passes would deliver results. The gear was already setup and we were anxious to go. Unfortunately it was an hour before the first pass of the day.



John VE7TI made the first attempt at SO-50 and, after some fine tuning was able to monitor activity from the central and southwest US. A successful contact was made with W0DHB, David in Longmont Colorado.

The next pass was FO-29, worked successfully by Jay VE7KC. He logged a contact with WA7HQD Lee in Syracuse, Utah. Unfortunately a long-winded operator prevented additional contacts although this was a high, and therefore long pass.



*A video of John VA7XB
making his satellite
contact is available at:*

<http://tinyurl.com/SARC-Sat-Contact>



When FO-29 came around on its next orbit, John VA7XB was at the mic. John worked KI6WJ, Jim in Reno, Nevada.

We did discover a discrepancy between the suggested and actual frequencies. The Doppler effect required constant adjustment as the satellite passes overhead. This can be a fiddly process if the computer does not keep pace. The software has an adjustment

feature and we hope to have this resolved at the next opportunity.

All in all it was a satisfying afternoon with plenty of sunshine, great home baking by Heather Brodie, and lots of radio talk and play.

The group is open to interested members, whether you want to work the 'birds' yourself or simply see how it all works. Of course, favourable passes permitting, we will have the gear at Field Day where we may even have another opportunity to contact the astronauts aboard the International Space Station.

~John VE7TI



The SARC Satellite Logbook To Date...

Date	Time	Operator	Callsign Used	Satellite	Contact Name	Grid Sq	Location
12-Apr-15	1520	John VE7TI	VE7SAR	FO-29	W5CBF Hector	EM21	Palestine, TX
10-May-15	1558	John VA7XB	VA7XB	FO-29	WA7HQD Lee	DN31	Syracuse, UT
17-May-15	1413	John VE7TI	VE7SAR	SO-50	W0DHB David	DN70	Longmont, CO
17-May-15	1452	Jay VE7KC	VE7SAR	FO-29	WA7HQD Lee	DN31	Syracuse, UT
17-May-15	1630	John VA7XB	VE7SAR	FO-29	KI6WJ Jim	DM09	Reno, NV

Fox-1 Satellite Development, Launch, and Frequency Coordination Status

Looks like we will soon be able to work some satellites with dual-band hand-held transceivers again. During the Dayton Hamvention, AMSAT Vice President Operations, Drew Glasbrenner, KO4MA, and AMSAT Vice President - Engineering Jerry Buxton, N0JY, provided more information about the Fox-1 satellites under development. Buxton, N0JY, says Fox-1A has passed all environmental testing and is integrated into the P-POD deployment canister. "The 'remove before flight pin' has been pulled, the doors closed on the P-POD, and everything is aboard the shipping container now enroute to Vandenberg Air Force Base in California for launch", said Buxton.

Previously Buxton had announced plans to incorporate an L band receiver in Fox-1C and Fox-1D. The addition will allow ground commanded selection of the U/v (normal Fox-1 bands) or the new L/v 1.2 GHz (23 cm) mode. Both bands will operate as FM single channel. (See: <http://www.amsat.org/?p=4000>)

Fox-1A will launch on a NASA ELaNa flight scheduled during the third quarter, 2015 from Vandenberg AFB. Fox-1A is a passenger aboard this launch driven by the schedule of the primary payload. When updates are available with firm dates they will be announced via the ANS bulletins, on the AMSAT web, and in the AMSAT Journal.

- Fox-1B will fly with the Vanderbilt University radiation experiments expected in 2016.
- Fox-1C will launch on Spaceflight's maiden mission of the SHERPA multi-cubesat deployer on a SpaceX Falcon 9 flight planned for late 2015.
- Fox-1D is a flight spare for Fox-1C. If not needed as a spare it will fly with the University of Iowa HERCI radiation mapping experiment.
- Fox-1E "Evolution" will carry a Mode J linear transponder. The transponder is planned to be 30 kHz wide and will also have a 1200 bps BPSK telemetry beacon. Launch opportunities are being developed, to be announced at a later date.

During the satellite operations segment of the AMSAT Forum Glasbrenner provided the details of the uplink and downlink frequencies for the Fox-1 FM cubesat fleet.

	Uplink FM	Downlink FM
Fox-1A	435.180 MHz	145.980 MHz
RadFxSat/Fox-1B	435.250 MHz	145.960 MHz
Fox-1C	435.300 MHz	145.920 MHz
Fox-1D	435.350 MHz	145.880 MHz

June 2015



Radio-Active

Jinty Reid VA7JMR



Kathy Plant
VE7KTL

Kathy originates from just outside the city of Blackpool, in the county of Lancashire, England. She was one of 3 girls with one of her sisters now being deceased. She was into sports at school with track and field, long jump and short distance running being her main sports. She also excelled at cooking in her high school years. After graduating from secondary school she worked for the Lancashire County Council as a trainee supervisor of school kitchens. It was while attending culinary college in the 1970's that she met a certain young man by the name of Mike Plant, who was also attending the same college. They married and had a daughter, Charlotte, while still living in England. In 1974 they all moved to Canada and lived in the North Shore of the lower mainland. They went on to

have another daughter, Amanda. Both daughters have since married and provided Kathy and Mike with 4 grandchildren. Both Mike and Kathy worked for the North Shore Winter Club. Kathy also has worked for the "House of Fabrics in Vancouver. I am sure some of this will sound familiar to you all as last month the Radio Active profile was on Mike Plant and the lives of married couples usually intertwine at some points. At present Mike is off work on long term disability. As Mike is a chef by profession it is not surprising he does the cooking at home as Kathy still works full time. This means Kathy has the good fortune not to have to 'slave away' in the kitchen, although we are not sure she does not have to do some of the clean up afterwards eh? Kathy and Mike have now been married 42 years, quite an achievement in this day and age. You may also think it is surprising as you listen to them bantering with each other but that is all part of the British culture, they really kind of like each other! Kathy has worked all her life throughout the marriage. Kathy worked in 1990 as cafeteria manager at Vancouver College, a boy's catholic school and now is office coordinator in the main office there, where she has worked for the past 25 years. She is also a first aid attendant.

Eventually Kathy and Mike moved to Surrey. They purchased an escape property in the Mt Baker area of the United States where they have enjoyed much of their 'downtime'. Among her other hobbies are sewing, walking and reading. Two things that Kathy has done to overcome her fears has been walking across the Capilano Bridge (I am still too scared to do that) and, in spite of being afraid of water, she took outrigger canoeing racing 2 or 3 times a week for a year and now she has continued this

and absolutely loves it (see attached photo).

Mike encouraged Kathy to get into amateur radio with the result that in the year 2000 she obtained her Basic license and there is an ICOM-ZIA in the car but she is not active at present. The most enjoyable part of being in the ham circle with her husband has been that it allows Kathy to enjoy the social aspects of the hobby. She enjoys interacting with other hams and their wives.

Both Kath and Mike enjoy fishing together. As a couple Kathy and Mike have travelled to Alaska and Florida and in the future they plan on purchasing an RV, when Kathy retires, and using it to travel throughout North America. As mentioned in Mike's profile, Mike and Kathy have adopted a rescue dog called "Bugsy" who is part Min-pin and part Chihuahua.

Mike describes Kathy as having a good sense of humour and as determined and well-organized. Kathy we hope to see you more active as a ham radio operator in the future

- Jinty Reid VA7JMR





June Events

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
31	1	2 1930 SEPAR Net 2000 SARC Net	3	4	5 0800 Club Breakfast: Kalmar Family Restaurant, King George Blvd & 81 st Ave	6 SEA-PAC HamFest, Seaside, OR
7 SEA-PAC HamFest, Seaside, OR	8	9 1930 SEPAR Net 2000 SARC Net	10 SARC Annual General Meeting	11	12 0800 Club Breakfast: Kalmar Family Restaurant, King George Blvd & 81 st Ave	13 Field Day Prep & Testing
14	15	16 1930 SEPAR Net 2000 SARC Net	17	18	19 0800 Club Breakfast: Kalmar Family Restaurant, King George Blvd & 81 st Ave	20 Contest: All Asian CW
21 Contest: All Asian CW	22	23 1930 SEPAR Net 2000 SARC Net	24 SARC Exec Meeting	25	26 0800 Club Breakfast: Kalmar Family Restaurant, King George Blvd & 81 st 1000 Field Day Setup	27 Field Day
28 Field Day 1100 Take-down	29	30 1930 SEPAR Net 2000 SARC Net	1	2	3	4

June 2015

**QRT**

John Brodie VA7XB

Another Year—Another Field Day

CLUB EXECUTIVE 2014-2015

PRESIDENT

John Brodie VA7XB

VICE PRESIDENT

Brett Garrett VE7GM

SECRETARYRob Gilchrist VE7CZV
(also Net Manager)**TREASURER**

Scott Hawrelak VE7HA

DIRECTORSJohn Schouten VE7TI
(Communicator Editor & Membership)

Bill Gipps VE7XS

Al Peterson VA7ALZ

Stan Williams VA7NF

On the Web ve7sar.net

Between newsletters, watch your e-mail for announcements of events, monthly meetings and training opportunities. These announcements can also be found on our web page, or via:

Twitter
[@ve7sar](https://twitter.com/ve7sar)

SARC Photos
Web Albums

or

tinyurl.com/SARCphoto

By now every member should know what Field Day is all about. I use this opportunity to focus on a few things that bear special mention:

We still need volunteers for the following:

- Help at the Information table to greet visitors and answer questions
- Help with the educational program (foxhunt, Morse code, Phonetic alphabet)
- A social coordinator
- VHF (6m) operators
- Volunteers to help erect antennas

We still need members to bring the following:

- Tools to help with equipment setup
- 3 garbage pails and 9 garbage bags. Two pails should be labeled "garbage" and the other labeled "recycling - cans and bottles only"

Meals and Refreshments

- Pizza and soft drinks will be brought in for the Friday setup crew at around 6 pm
- All meals are strictly BYO. A barbeque and cook stove plus condiments will be provided
- Coffee, bottled water, soft drinks and snack items will be provided for participants
- We plan to have coffee, soft drinks (and possibly donuts) for visitors

What to Bring

- Your SARC name tag
- Your own personal coffee mug
- A lawn chair - so you have a place to sit and relax
- Suitable clothing and footwear - warm and/or rainproof as needed



- Sleeping bag and air mattress (or equivalent) if you plan to use the "crash" tent for sleeping
- Flashlight if you plan to be present during hours of darkness
- Safety gear if you plan to help with setup or take-down: hard hat, high-vis vest, gloves and safety boots are the recommended items

Stay for the Weekend if Possible

Whether or not you are operating, you are encouraged to bring your motor home, camper, trailer or tent. There is lots of room but please park along the west side of the grounds away from towers, antennas and guy wires. Tents can be set up anywhere that suits you.

Pre-FD Breakfast

Join us for breakfast at the Kalmar Restaurant 81st Ave on King George Blvd between 7:30 and 8:30 am on Friday June 26th. The group will disperse immediately afterwards to fetch equipment, trailers and towers for transport to the site

Site Setup

- Site setup officially commences at 10 am on Friday June 26th: Grandview Heights school grounds at the NW corner of 176th St (aka Pacific Highway) and 20th Ave.
- Bring tools: wrenches, pliers, sledges, screwdrivers etc.

- In order to have Worksafe BC coverage, you must register every day by signing the PEP sign-in sheet

Important Reminders

- This is a liquor-free event
- You may bring your pet but you are responsible to keep it under control and clean up
- Make sure you label all personal items with your name and/or callsign

If You are Not Otherwise Involved with FD Preparations

- Visit us on Saturday afternoon with family members and join in the planned activities
- Look for VE7SAR on HF and VHF and give us a contact. On Saturday afternoon we'll monitor 146.550 simplex or via the SARC Repeater
- Field Day is our opportunity to showcase Amateur Radio to the public. Do your part to make us proud of our contribution to the community.



The Communicator will take a summer break after this issue.

Monthly publication starts again on September 1st.

Have a GREAT summer!!

SARC hosts an Amateur Radio net each Tuesday evening at 8 PM. Please tune in to the VE7RSC repeater at 147.360 MHz (+600 KHz) Tone=110.9, also accessible on IRLP node 1736 and Echolink node 496228. On UHF we operate a repeater on 443.775MHz (+5Mhz) Tone=110.9 and EchoLink Node 1736

	SEPARS Net	SARC Net
1st Tuesday	Drew VA7DRW Jay VE7KC Stdbby	Drew VA7DRW Brett VE7GM Stdbby
2nd Tuesday	Dixie VA7DIX Alan VA7BIT Stdbby	Jinty VA7JMR
3rd Tuesday	Rob VE7CZV	Rob VE7CZV
4th Tuesday	Peter VE7PGX Dixie VA7DIX	John VA7XB
5th Tuesday	Jinty VA7JMR	Elizabeth VE7ELA
Want a turn at Net Control? Contact the SARC Net Manager VE7CZV @ separs.net		

Down The Log...

SARC Monthly Meetings

2nd Wed. (Sept-Jun)
1900 hrs at the
Emergency Mgmt BC
PREOC,
14275 96th Avenue,
Surrey, BC

Weekly Club Breakfast

Friday at 0800 hrs
Kalmar Family
Restaurant at
King George & 81st
Surrey

SARC Net

Tuesday at 2000 hrs
local
on 147.360 MHz (+)
Tone=110.9

SEPARS Net

Tuesday at 19:30 hrs
local
on 147.360 MHz (+)
Tone=110.9

SEPARS Monthly Training

4th Tuesday of each
month, 1900-2100 hrs
14923—64th Ave, next
to Firehall #9, Surrey.



We Have A SARC Patch!

These are suitable for sewing on a jacket, cap or your jammies, so you can proudly display your support for the club.

The price is \$4 each or three for \$10 and they can be picked up at the meeting or a Friday morning breakfast.

Burnaby Radio Communications

Michael J. Wong VE7HMW
President/Owner

4257 Hastings Street
Burnaby, B.C. V5C 2J5
Phone 604-298-5444
Fax 604-298-5455

Commercial / Amateur Radio
Email: sales@burnabyradio.com
web: www.burnabyradio.com

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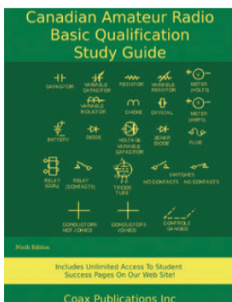
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Note for 8th Edition owners: We are still supporting your book. The section references for the Industry Canada questions have changed in the new edition and we have changed our website to ensure that when a reference to a section is presented it will be correct for both editions. The selection is made automatically for you when you log on.

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Surrey Amateur Radio Club

**2015 ANNUAL
GENERAL MEETING**

**Notice of Annual General Meeting
and Election of Directors**

**Wednesday, June 10th at 7 pm
Provincial Regional Emergency Operations Centre,
14275 96th Avenue, Surrey**

Agenda

- Welcome/Introductions
- Approval of agenda
- Minutes of 2014 AGM (please review prior to AGM)
- Annual Financial Reports
- Committee & Other Reports
- Approval of Changes to Bylaws
- Election of Directors

Nominations

In 2013 the membership approved an amendment to the Bylaws that saw Directors elected for a 2-year term. As a result, half the elected positions will be up for re-election this year. The slate of members that have already agreed to stand will be posted. After a call for additional nominations from the floor, up to 3 Directors will be elected. The elected Directors will subsequently appoint Officers (President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer) in accordance with the bylaws.

Note that only members in good standing may vote on motions or election of Directors.

Please refer to the SARC website: <http://ve7sar.net/theclub/bylaws-nov-05-2010.pdf> should you wish to review the Constitution and Bylaws of the Club.

We look forward to your attendance

John Brodie VA7XB

Your 2014—2015 Executive

Officers:

President: John Brodie VA7XB

Vice-President: Brett Garrett VE7GM

Secretary: Rob Gilchrist VE7CZV (Net Manager)

Treasurer: Scott Hawrelak VE7HA

Directors:

Bill Gipps VE7XS

Al Peterson VA7ALZ

Stan Williams VA7NF (SEPAR Liaison)

John Schouten VE7TI (Newsletter Editor & Membership)

Minutes Of The 2014 Annual General Meeting

June 11, 2014

Introduction

Out-going President John VA7XB opened the meeting at 1900 hr and welcomed everyone. He advised that this was the AGM for fiscal year 2013/2014, which ended on May 31st. Only members in good standing could vote on club business. It was confirmed that the 23 members present at the start of the meeting (which later grew to 27 after late-comers arrived) constituted the necessary quorum (25% or more of the membership of 79) with no non-members present. The new slate of Directors would commence their duties immediately after the AGM. John reminded members that payment for Field Day meals was required immediately and that raffle tickets are available for those members who have not already received a book.

Approval of Agenda

Moved by Hiu VE7YXG and seconded by Jinty VA7JMR that the agenda be approved - the motion carried unanimously.

Approval of 2013 AGM Minutes

As the 2013 minutes were re-published in the June 1st Communicator and have been available on SARC's website for several weeks, John VA7XB requested any corrections or additions and, with none forthcoming, requested a motion to approve the 2013 minutes. John VE7TI so moved, Brett VE7GM seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

Annual Financial Report

Scott VE7HA presented the Balance statement and the Income Statement for 2013/2014 fiscal year, as audited by Paulette Schouten VE7VPE. Scott pointed out that funds in the two bank accounts totaling \$5348 exceed by approximately \$600 the combined balance last year at this time. The income statement reflected the same increase of income over expenses, if equipment depreciation is excluded from expenses. It was moved by Joe VE7TOL and seconded by Kjeld VE7GP that the financial statement be approved; the motion carried unanimously. Paulette was thanked for her professional help in auditing the books.

Announcements

- Name badges: Orders will be taken in the Fall; Scott then handed out badges which were ordered earlier.
- John VE7TI has suggested that SARC consider having SARC cap/sleeve badges made up for purchase by members.
- Cruise-in and Raffle: Bill VA7ZBL was unable to attend the AGM but raffle tickets are available for those who have not already received a book. Until a successor for Bill's duties can be arranged, tickets can be obtained from John VA7XB. All members are encouraged to take one or more books. Ticket stubs and cash must be returned prior to the draw, which will take place on Sept. 6th at the Langley Cruise-in; both can be returned at the Kalmar Friday breakfast during the summer. A notice will be sent out in August requesting help at the SARC Cruise-in booth.

- Tuesday Night Net: the net will continue on an informal basis through the summer with net control taken by any willing volunteer if the regular is absent.
- Friday Breakfast: the Friday morning breakfast group will continue to meet through the summer. John VE7TI suggested that we also have an informal meeting - similar to last year - on our normal meeting night (2nd Wednesday of July and August) at MacDonald's Restaurant King George Blvd and 72nd Ave.
- After-meeting social at MacDonald's: the social will continue this evening, as usual.
- Fall Program:
 - ◊ September 10th - will include task assignments and an in-house swap meet in the parking lot
 - ◊ October - John White VA7JW on antenna modeling
 - ◊ November - Heinz VA7AQ on his IOTA expedition TBC
 - ◊ December 6th - Christmas party at the Kalmar
- Suggested Future Meetings: Joe VE7TOL was agreeable to do a Raspberry Pi talk
- IOTA Expedition: Heinz VA7AQ announced that he is planning an IOTA expedition to Texada Island July 23-26 and he may be looking for additional participants; all involved would be responsible for their own costs. Those interested should contact Heinz: va7aq@shaw.ca
- Kit Building Program: this provides up to \$50 rebate for members who: a) build a radio-related kit b) give a short talk to the club, and c) provide a write-up for the Communicator. An email to, and response from, a member of the Exec will confirm suitability of the proposed project.
- Bhim VA7BIM has donated a new Baofeng dual-band handheld radio to SARC, which will be retained for a door prize at the Christmas party. Thanks were expressed to Bhim for his generous donation.
- Fred VE7MPI announced that he has found a local source for 20 ft. long fishing poles suitable for use in antenna construction and at a future meeting he is willing to describe his latest project using the poles.

Committee and Other Reports

Reports, presented verbally, are included at the end of the minutes.

Discussion arose out of the Communicator report, specifically a suggestion that the Communicator should be provided free-of-charge to any person who requests it, as a form of promotion for the club. This was not resolved but will be taken back to the Executive for further consideration.

Regarding the operator training/contesting program, Stan VA7NF announced that VE7SAR had achieved first place in the 2014 BC QSO Party Multi-operator low power SSB category with a score of 169,184. Operators cited on the certificate were: IZ7FMM/VE7, VE7AXU, VE7NAE and VE7XEN.

New Business: there was none

Election of Directors

Anton VE7SSD presided over the election of Directors, explaining that consistent with the revised bylaws, 4 Directors are elected each year for a 2-year term, staggered so there are 8 Directors in total. With 1 Director standing down and 4 others having expired terms, the membership was required to elect up to 5 Directors. A slate of nominees was presented comprised of:

1. Brett VE7GM
2. Bill VE7XS
3. Stan VA7NF
4. Alan VA7ALZ
5. John VA7XB

Anton VE7SSD requested further nominations from the floor 3 times. There being none, it was moved by Nelson VE7NAE and seconded by Al VE7CDC that the foregoing slate be approved by the membership; the motion carried unanimously.

Field Day Planning

A series of slides was presented highlighting areas requiring additional volunteers, or equipment for FD (not included in this version of minutes for sake of brevity).

Conclusion

John VA7XB thanked retiring Directors Bill VA7ZBL and George VE7QH for their faithful service during the year and welcomed new Directors Stan VA7NF and Alan VA7ALZ

to the team. The appointment of Officers will be decided at the next Executive meeting and the results announced immediately thereafter. The meeting was adjourned at 2100 hr.

Committee/Other Reports

Not included in this version of minutes for sake of brevity.

~Recorded by John VA7XB

Directors' Reports 2014-2015

John Brodie VA7XB (President)



Another year has gone by with some notable successes to reflect upon; a few examples: the huge team effort that led to our 2nd place win at the last Field Day; the high level of proficiency attained by several members of the contest group in their goal of becoming first-rate contest operators; the fun and sense of achievement gained by the new satellite group, which got up and

running in a few short months and is now making satellite contacts; the success of our annual Foxhunt in fostering participation from other clubs, and; the significant equipment donations made to the club which have added to our resources.

It is also a source of great satisfaction to me personally that SARC continues to benefit from strong leadership from our Directors, who have been consistently up to the task of providing mature counsel, taking on specific tasks and providing good ideas to keep the club moving forward. I see the role of President as “chief coordinator”, i.e. making sure that the needed work gets done and the many important details are not overlooked. However, it should be noted that our membership has not grown during the past year and, in fact, we have lost a few members (now 75 down from 80).

How should this development be interpreted? Yes, some former members have moved out of town, but a few others have simply drifted away for reasons unknown. The last time we took a survey of member's opinions, we did not get the impression that anything was wrong or lacking. The challenge is always to maintain the interest of members with stimulating programs and activities. That is why we need to keep renewing the leadership so that fresh and innovative programs and activities will

bring forth more involvement, more enjoyment, an on-going learning experience and bring new members into the group. We hope that at the AGM in June, we will have some previously uninvolved members step up to join the ranks of the Board of Directors and offer their expertise and enthusiasm to help guide SARC forward.

Brett Garrett VE7GM (Vice-President)



The SARC Contest Group was created this year (2014/2015) as an evolution of the SARC-SEPARS contest training program that has been conducted since 2011.

Our cadre of contest-hardened operators had increased, and since all of the then-current SARC members who were interested in trying or learning

contesting had had ample opportunity, the need for introductory training had decreased.

Our group of experienced testers, however, benefit greatly from sharing ideas, and continual practice in serious contests while working from contest-grade stations (something most of us don't have).

The Contest Group was thus formed in the autumn of 2014, as a special interest group within the club, to satisfy these needs of our contest-active members.

The group has fifteen members currently and, while not all individual members are active, the group overall has been very active over its first year. We officially participated in thirteen contests over the 2014/2015 season. A couple of contests on our original list turned out to be low activity (at least from our region) and so may be dropped next year. In some months we were participating in contests on four weekends, however, so we can afford to give up a few!

Special thanks are due to John VA7XB and Jim VE7FO, both of whom opened up their stations to host members who don't otherwise have access to a contest-grade station. In addition, Jim has continued to provide advanced one-on-one contest training for members who wish to fully develop their contesting skills.

The contesting season is drawing to a close as Field Day approaches, but the Contest Group is bound to be active again starting next September. SARC members who are interested in serious contesting are always welcome to join the group, and are invited to contact myself or any member of the executive for more information.

Rob Gilchrist VE7CZV (Secretary & Net Manager)



Scott Hawrelak VE7HA (Treasurer)



John Schouten VE7TI (Communicator & Membership)



It has been my pleasure to publish 11 issues of the SARC Communicator during the past year, 10 monthly issues and a Field Day wrap-up. As a result of newsletter sharing through RAC and publicity through social media, we have broadened our readership beyond Surrey, and even beyond North America.

As always, the Communicator is only as good as the content. Much of the content is gleaned from a variety of other news sources. We have about six regular contributors who share everything from Club events, personal experiences and writing articles on specific subjects. If each members contributed one small

item each year we would be flush with content and be able to make the Communicator an even more interesting read for other club members. During 2014-15 a few stepped forward, how about the rest?

While most members at the 2014 AGM indicated that they view the Communicator online, some still print it. With this in mind, a revised format for the newsletter was published in September with positive feedback.

Membership

I have also taken on maintenance of the membership roster. This was a logical step given that an up to date roster is required for distribution of the newsletter. Members are reminded to update their information if their email or other particulars change during the membership year.

We have also started to document members' special interests and where permission is given, a photo is kept on file.

**Bill Gipps VE7XS
(Director—Radio Amateurs of Canada, BC & YT)**



The last year, from an Amateur Radio perspective, has been both interesting and exciting. We had some great days on the radio, propagation smiled on us a number of times, and we worked a few new countries.

On the RAC side of things, we have stabilized the organization, the risk of bankruptcy has been significantly mitigated, and we have moved to smaller, less expensive office space in Ottawa.

RAC has continued to represent all Amateurs in Canada on the world stage, fighting for new bands and allocations, and working to preserve those that we have.

RAC continues to work to increase membership, and has experimented with a free year's electronic membership for newly licensed Amateurs. This is your organization, and your support is appreciated.

Al Peterson VA7ALZ (Director)



The first half of my 2-year term is drawing to a close and boy it did go fast. The 2 meter foxhunt and BBQ happened May 23rd and everyone seemed to have a good time; there was no rain and most people found at least 1 fox. Thanks to Anton and Brenda for a great meal after the hunt

and to John Schouten our official time keeper. Next year the foxhunt will be an 80 meter hunt so should be easier to find the foxes. There will be a small 2 meter foxhunt at field day this year so if you would like to know more about fox hunting come on out and try it.

I hope everyone is busy selling the cruise-in tickets as this is our main fundraiser for the year, so please get out there and sell. We only have 125 books of 10, so if everyone sells 2 books we will sell out.

I'm looking forward to next year and all the great possibilities that our club can achieve.

Stan Williams VA7NF (Director—SEPAR Liaison)



An Annual General Meeting, commonly referred to as an AGM, is a formal meeting which is held once a year. It is a legal requirement for voluntary organizations that have registered status. It is good practice to have an AGM to act as a review of the year and deal with issues such as the election of committee and board members and reviewing the accounts.

Although it is a formal meeting, it can also be a good opportunity to communicate with members, clients, partners and other interested parties.